(b) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to improve the balance of trade position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) The trade deficit during 1985-86, 1986-87 and April-December, 1987 amounted to Rs. 8763.10 crores, Rs. 7516.91 crores and Rs. 4913.37 crores respectively. It is difficult to precisely estimate the trade deficit with which we will end the Seventh Plan period at this stage.

(b) Series of physical and financial incentives have been introduced by the Government in order to promote exports and curtail the increase in imports so as to improve the balance of trade.

Irrigation projects from Andhra Pradesh pending clearance

61. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irrigation projects pending for clearance with Central Water Commission relating to Andhra Pradesh and since when they are pending;

(b) what are the reasons for the delay in their clearance and what is the actual position at present;

(c) what steps the Central Government have taken for their clearance and by what time these projects are likely to be cleared;

(d) whether any efforts have been made by the Central Government to coordinate the activities of various agencies and departments in the matter; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (e) Comments on 7 major and 6 medium projects received since 1985, except for 2 medium projects received during this year, have been sent to Andhra Pradesh for their compliance.

Solution of Punjab problem

62. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

SHRI KALPNATH RAI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed in Punjab by the terrorists since the imposition of President's Rule in that State and the steps taken by Government to prevent killings by terrorists in Punjab;

(b) whether Government are intending to initiate fresh negotiation with different Groups in Punjab to end the violence and for finding a peaceful solution of the problem; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) According to information furnished by the Government of Punjab, 777 persons were killed in incidents due to terrorist activities during the period 12th May, 1987 to 31st January, 1988. The steps taken to check terrorist activities in the State include raids on the hide-outs of terrorists and their harbourers/associates, intensification of patrolling and prompt follow up action on the information received about activities of such elements.

(b) and (c) The Government has made sincere efforts to solve the Punjab problem and efforts in this direction are continuing.

Jain Muni's efforts to solve Punjab problem

63. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jain Saint Acharya Muni Sushil Kumar has taken any initiative to solve the Punjab problem; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Acharya Sushil Kumar has been seeking a non-violent solution within the framework of the Constitution to the Punjab problem. Government welcomes his move.

Rehabilitation of November, 84 riot victims

64. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what fresh steps have been taken by the Central Government for the rehabilitation of November '84 riot victims;

(b) whether it is a fact that eleven children died during the past two years due to exposure or other diseases in Tilak Vihar Camp alone where the living conditions are horrible; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to improve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) (i) *Ad-hoc* relief at the rate of Rs. 400/- per month is being sanctioned to riot affected widows who could not be provided any employment or who are incapable of doing any job. Similarly *ad hoc* relief at the rate of Rs. 400/- is being sanctioned to aged riot affected persons who lost their earning/would be earning members.

(ii) The Govt. of India has decided to give *ex-gratia* amount at the rate of 50 per cent of the estimated loss subject to a maximum of Rs. 50,000/- to those who lost their uninsured business properties during riots.

(b) and (c) According to the Delhi Administration no such case has come to their notice.

Balance of trade position

65. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what would be the adverse trade balance gap by the end of the Seventh Plan;

(b) what has been the growth rate of exports and imports per quarter during the last three years; and

(c) what would this growth rate be during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) India's trade deficit during 1985-86, 1986-87 and April-December, 1987 amounted to Rs. 8763.10 crores, Rs. 7516.91 crores and Rs. 4913.37 crores respectively. It is difficult at this stage, to precisely estimate the trade deficit with which we will end the Seventh Plan period.

(b) and (c) The details of growth rate of exports and imports per quarter during the last 3 years and first three quarters of the current financial year are given below:

	1984-85		1985-86		1986-87(R)		1987-88(P)	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imp.	Exp.	Imp.	Exp.	Imp.
April-June	9.1	11.5	4.7	22.6	7.3	—1.9	29.9	10.9
July-Sept.	23.0	14.2	—9.9	22.6	18.4	—1.0	19.1	6.9
Oct.—Dec.	26.6	16.1	—11.3	18.3	13.8	—1.3	21.5	12.3
January-March	17.2	—4.5	—10.5	—1.2	21.6	+13.2	..	..

R : Revised
P : Provisional
Source : GDCI&S, Calcutta.